Strategic Plan Implementation

What does it mean for my campus?
What is the Strategic Plan?

• Maine’s future depends on a strong, high quality, and forward-looking University System.

• The Strategic Plan ensures that Maine citizens receive the maximum benefits from their investment in the University System.
What is the Strategic Plan?

• The plan features nine strategic directions covering academic quality, administrative structure, cost-effectiveness, and entrepreneurial partnerships.

• This process is to ensure the University of Maine System continues to meet the state’s needs and expectations for high-quality, cost-effectiveness, innovation and accountability in higher education.
Implementation Planning Process

- Over 400 people are currently serving on Implementation Planning committees, from the campus and System levels, as well as members of the community.
- Implementation for each Strategic Direction is led by two to three committees comprised of experts and representatives in the area of focus.
- Committees for each Strategic Direction include faculty, students, and administrators, and each Committee is overseen by a Coordinating Chair (or Chairs) who reports to the Chancellor.
- The Coordinating Chairs are in charge of communication between committee members. The Board of Trustees receives briefings on Implementation Planning from the Chancellor at every Board meeting.
- The Planning Process consists of:
  1. a set of overarching “Guiding Principles” to guide committee members as they consider each step of the Implementation Process
  2. an “Implementation Model” showing the overall committee structure
  3. and a nine-part document detailing the committee structure, goals, approaches, outcomes, and timelines for each strategic direction.
Implementation Planning Progress

• In September of 2005, over 180 committee members met to collaborate and share information on the progress of their work

• Implementation committees have submitted the first set of reports and received feedback – second reports are due December 22, 2005 and final reports are due May 1, 2006

• The Board of Trustees strategic plan subcommittee will meet with the chairs of the implementation committees on January 20, 2006 to review context, plans and process

• A follow-up retreat is scheduled for February 2006 at the Hutchinson Center in Belfast
Success To Date

• Discussion of new and creative ways of broadening the funding stream for research, scholarship and creative activity
• Created a venue to wrestle with the big issues facing higher education in Maine, such as financial aid
• Provided an opportunity for libraries to be a part of the future of higher education in Maine
• Accountability in various forms is an essential component of current and future planning
What will it mean for Faculty?

- Greater opportunities for faculty development and research
- Collaboration opportunities among faculty from campuses across the system
- Greater availability of distance education
- Focus attention on appropriate targets for compensation
- Set greater incentives for faculty research
- Enhance IT and library support in order to facilitate research
What Will it Mean for Students?

• Easier transferability of credits from campus to campus and the community colleges in the University System
• Enhanced library resources
• State-of-the-art distance education program
• Development of a coherent and effective financial aid program to help lower the debt burden on students
• Increase graduate fellowships across the System
• Enhance the graduate education experience and build the System’s research and scholarly capacity
• Enhance IT and library support in order to facilitate research
• Expand opportunities for undergraduate research
What will it mean for Employees?

- Increased effectiveness of service throughout the System through centralization of services
- Greater opportunities for staff development programs
- Expanded wellness programs
- Focus attention on appropriate targets for compensation